

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Original) A beverage brewer comprising:

a liquid source;

valve means for piercing and opening said liquid source;

heating means communicating with said valve means for heating the liquid;

passage means for delivering heated fluid from the heating means;

an expansion volume communicating with said passage means;

means for delivering said fluid from said expansion volume to a brew chamber; and

means for delivering a brewed liquid from said brew chamber.

2. (Currently Amended) A beverage brewer comprising:

a valve means for piercing a volume of liquid;

a heating source communicating with a delivered liquid down stream of said valve means and delivering heated liquid to an expansion chamber; and

a brew chamber downstream of said expansion chamber for receiving heated liquid there from, said brew chamber having outlet means for delivering a brewed substance.

3. (Currently Amended) A beverage brewer comprising:

a housing having a cavity formed therein and having a bottom, a piercing valve member disposed in said bottom of said cavity, a heating chamber in said housing adjacent said piercing valve member, a first inlet tube having a first end communicating with said heating chamber and a second end communicating with an ~~expiation~~ expansion chamber, and the expansion chamber having a second end, and a second outlet tube having a first end and a second end; and

a cartridge removably positioned in said cavity with water chamber and brew chamber, containing brew ingredients, extending sufficiently into said cavity to engage said piercing valve member, and said brew chamber engaging the cavity bottom to close said cavity, said second end of said expansion chamber, a first opening sealingly engaging said second end of said expansion chamber, a first passage means communicating between said first opening and said brew chamber to deliver heated liquid to said brew chamber, a second opening sealingly engaging said first end of said second outlet, and a second passage means communicating between said brew chamber and said second outlet to deliver a brewed substance from said brew chamber to said second outlet.

4. (Original) The beverage brewer defined in Claim 3 further comprising: said expansion chamber having means to accommodate excessive fluid pressure.

5. (Original) The beverage brewer defined in Claim 1 further comprising:
a two chamber disposable cartridge including said liquid source with brew bin immediately adjacent the an outlet of a liquid container of said disposable cartridge.

6. (New) A beverage apparatus comprising:
a liquid source;
a valve mechanism to access said liquid source;
a passage associated with said liquid source;
a chamber associated with said liquid source; and
a fluid connection and volume is provided between said liquid source and said chamber.

7. (New) The beverage apparatus of claim 6, further comprising:
a fluid transport system for delivering a liquid from said brew chamber to a vessel.

8. (New) The beverage apparatus of claim 7, further comprising:
a heating mechanism for providing thermal energy to at least one of said liquid source, said valve mechanism, or said passage.

9. (New) The beverage apparatus of claim 6, further comprising:
a housing;
wherein said liquid source is removably associated with said housing.

10. (New) The beverage apparatus of claim 9, wherein said chamber and said liquid source are substantially permanently interconnected.

11. (New) A method of preparing a beverage in an apparatus including a fluid source container, a valve mechanism, and a chamber, comprising:

 piercing the fluid source container with the valve mechanism;

 moving a volume of fluid from said fluid source container to said chamber;

and

 providing a volume for expansion of at least a part of the fluid volume.

12. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein piercing a fluid source container includes moving a piercing portion of the valve mechanism into contact with the fluid source container by positioning the fluid source container in a housing.

13. (New) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

 heating at least a portion of said fluid volume such that said fluid volume increases in volume into the provided expansion area.

14. (New) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

 extracting a flavoring into the fluid while the fluid volume is in said chamber.

15. (New) The method of claim 11, further comprising providing the fluid volume to a container for consumption by a user.